

# Children's Newspaper

Every Wednesday—Fourpence

21st January, 1961

## ENGLISH LESSON IN RUSSIAN SCHOOL

**C N correspondent joins boys and girls in a Moscow classroom**

A C N correspondent who recently spent a short period in Moscow was most impressed by the command of English shown by Russian boys and girls. So impressed, in fact, that he decided to find out how they are taught by becoming a temporary "pupil" himself, taking his seat in a Moscow school during an English lesson, armed with notebook and camera.

THE class respectfully stood up as the Head and I entered the room. There were twelve boys and eight girls, all about 15 years old. They sat two to a desk, the boys on the teacher's left, the girls nearest the window.

After briefly being introduced as the visitor from "London, which is the capital of England," I was given a seat at the back of the room by the English language mistress. Then the lesson began.

### Feodor stands up

During the one-and-a-half hours I was in the classroom not one word of Russian was spoken. All the instructions were given in English, and all mistakes were corrected in English; a difficult task indeed.

The teacher waved her textbook towards an intelligent looking boy with a shock of black hair.

"Stand up, Feodor," she said.

Obviously the verb "to stand" was well known to Feodor. He stood up immediately.

"Tell me," began the teacher, "something you will do with your book—"

Almost over-anxious, Feodor gabbled his words in a rush . . .

"To—to—I to read from the book!"

The teacher shook her head. "No, no, no, Feodor. You must speak *more slowly*. Another word for 'more slowly'?" she asked.

"Slower!" came the chorus. Apparently the class was used to such a question.

"Now, to continue," said the teacher. "You—Kolya, tell us instead of Feodor!"

Kolya, who had been gazing out of the window, suddenly realised he had been caught out.

"Kolya," repeated the teacher patiently, "what is Feodor going to do from his book? This was supposed to have been your homework last night!"

"Feodor," began Kolya, obviously thankful he could begin the complicated answer with something so simple as a name, "Feodor—"

### Half asleep

"Sit down, Kolya—you are half asleep today," said the teacher. "Well, Feodor, have you had time to work out the answer? 'Your book'—"

"I about am to read from my book," said Feodor with great caution, looking hopefully in my direction this time to see if he had got everything perfect.

But the teacher insisted on detailed perfection. "Where has he

## DONKEYS ON HOLIDAY



Dian and Beauty are two seaside donkeys who work hard every Summer, giving rides to young visitors at Weston-super-Mare. Just now they are enjoying a long Winter holiday on a Somerset farm.

## Scholar Ship

The troopship *Dunera* is to be converted into a cruising school ship by the British India Steam Navigation Company. In the Spring she will begin taking parties of schoolchildren and students on voyages to Scandinavia and the Mediterranean at prices varying from £28 to £45.

Life on board will be according to ship's routine. There will be a permanent Director of Studies and teachers who will give the passenger-pupils three hours in-

struction every day as well as lectures on the places of interest to be visited. There will be organised games, such as deck tennis, and in the evenings, film shows, concerts, and amateur theatrical performances on a small stage.

The first cruise, for which passengers are being enrolled by the School Travel Service, is due to leave Glasgow on 28th March for a 13-day trip to Corunna, Lisbon, Gibraltar, and back again to Glasgow.

## POPULAR JOHN AND JANE

It would appear that John and Jane are still the most popular Christian names in this country; among the birth announcements in *The Daily Telegraph* last year John led for the seventh time running and Jane for the sixth.

David was again second in the boys' list, with James and Richard sharing third place. Among the girls, Ann or Anne pushed Elizabeth down to the third place.

Ecamilia, Izma, Album, and Balon were among the more unusual names chosen for new arrivals.

The teacher's approving nod caused Kolya and Feodor to exchange a look that needed no translation. "Fancy being shown up in front of a real Englishman—and by a girl!"

So the lesson went on, sometimes translation, sometimes reading aloud, sometimes explaining mistakes of others, sometimes having to explain their own mistakes. Although it may have taken longer than lapsing occasionally into native Russian, everything, absolutely everything, was said in English.

The final result is free and idiomatic use of the English language which I'm sure would astonish you, as much as it did me, if you were to visit Russia tomorrow.

gone wrong?" she asked the class.

One or two hands began to go up, not very quickly, because pupils in Russia are much the same as in England or anywhere else. Besides, this was not an easy question. To know the answer you would have had to listen very carefully indeed to Feodor, know your grammar well enough to understand his mistake, and have sufficient command of English to make sure the teacher would have no further fault to find.

Then the teacher added: "Only put up your hand if you *really* know the answer!"

So in the end only three hands were raised.

### Perfect answer

A girl wearing her hair in a long single plait was chosen to answer. Attempting to get each syllable perfect she carefully said:

"The word 'about' should come before the infinitive it modifies."

I must confess to having gulped a little, as this 15-year-old girl explained so simply and clearly something that was certainly not simple.



A corner of the Moscow classroom



# NEW THIRD FORCE IN THE WORLD

## Countries that are like a cushion between East and West

By the C.N. Diplomatic Correspondent

During 1961, the balance of power between the Western world and the Communist bloc will be influenced by a third group of countries which claim to be neutral.

These countries belong to neither of the two groupings which are dominated by the United States on one hand and Soviet Russia on the other. In fact, they might be described as the Third Force.

THE strength of these neutrals is purely political. They have arms and troops for self-defence, but are attached to no military alliance. And they consider themselves free to accept weapons, machinery, food, money, and technical help from either of the two Big Power blocs.

We can estimate the influence this Third Force may have on

recently achieved independence and have their own way, a fresh way, of looking at world problems.

In the complicated world of diplomacy the way that nations "line up" depends on what they are aiming at, having regard to their own interest and security. All seek peace, prosperity, and the avoidance of war. But individual

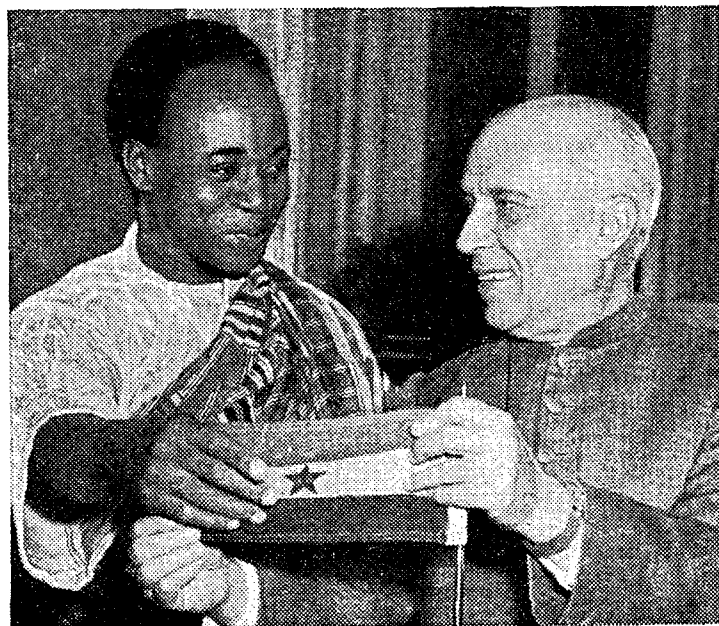
may be influenced by events in Asia—such as the invasion of Tibet by the Chinese Communists. Dr. Nkrumah's chief concern is the promotion of unity among new African States. Colonel Nasser's first allegiance is to the Arab Muslim world he seeks to lead. In some circumstances these interests may conflict, making co-operation difficult, if not impossible.

Today, they broadly agree on how to end the civil war in the Belgian Congo. But tomorrow they may disagree if a settlement runs contrary to their interests.

### Not always united

None of the three blocs is, in fact, a united force all the time. The West often suffers from differences over details of policy. Yugoslavia, although a Communist country, is not an acceptable member of the Communist bloc because she pursues her own road to Communism; and there are differences, too, between Russia and China.

But the Third Force, however loosely linked, is bound to influence, and perhaps moderate, the behaviour of the two main blocs—the East and the West. It can be thought of as a kind of political cushion.



President Nkrumah of Ghana proudly shows his country's flag to Prime Minister Nehru of India

world affairs if we look at the membership of the United Nations. When it was founded in 1945 to spread the rule of law and keep the peace, this world organisation had 51 members. This total has nearly doubled since then, largely through the addition of these Third Force countries, and in 1961 will easily pass the 100 mark.

When there were only 51 members, 32 of them were nations either of Western Europe or of largely European descent in North America and Latin America. Now, although 41 members belong to this "Western sphere of interest" another 54 are mostly Third Force countries representing Africa, Asia, and the Middle East.

Throughout the last 15 years the Communist bloc of ten countries has always been in a minority and so could be outvoted. Now the Western bloc, too, can be outvoted on all major issues. The Third Force is therefore a combination to be reckoned with, especially as it is composed chiefly of former "colonial" countries which have

differences between them appear when it comes to ways and means of achieving these aims.

The Third Force is not even a loose alliance, like the Western bloc, and is made up of nations representing all shades of democratic opinion. Nor does it pursue a centrally controlled political policy like the Communist bloc.

Again, the Communist bloc countries occupy a great land mass stretching from East Europe to East China. But Third Force countries, like the Western nations, are scattered about the Earth. Some parts of the group belong to the Commonwealth, such as the India of Premier Nehru and the Ghana of President Nkrumah, two of its outstanding personalities.

A third—President Nasser of the United Arab Republic of Egypt and Syria—sees his role as that of a "bridge" between the Third Force countries of Asia and Africa, and even between the two major blocs.

The "Three Ns"—Nehru, Nkrumah, Nasser—do not necessarily agree with each other about every world problem. Mr. Nehru

## NEWS FROM EVERYWHERE

### Modern church

A British firm is to make the longest flexible underwater pipe-line in the world, at a cost of £2,500,000. It will carry natural gas 53 miles from the mainland of British Columbia to Vancouver Island.

### MORE BOOKS

British publishers issued 23,783 titles last year—a record. Nearly 18,000 were new; the rest were reprints.

Australia received 136,000 immigrants last year, 65,000 of them from Britain.

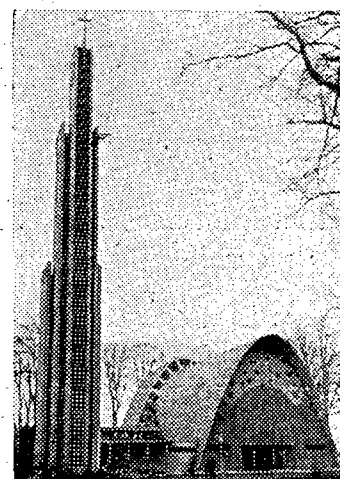
Britain exported 1,342,000 bicycles last year, nearly 200,000 more than in 1959.

### BLACKBIRD TO BLAME

The Staffordshire town of Leek was without light and power for an hour because a blackbird flew into a 33,000-volt cable.

Over 5,000 pedigree dogs, worth at least £500,000, were exported from Britain last year—a record. The most popular breed was again the miniature poodle.

The 400th anniversary of Sir Francis Bacon's birth (22nd January 1561) will be celebrated next Sunday with a service in St. Martin's Church, St. Albans, where he was buried. Later in the week lectures on the great man and his work will be given in the Town Hall at St. Albans.



One of the most striking buildings in Germany is this new Protestant church in the Hamburg suburb of Farmson. The bell-tower, looking not unlike a huge ladder, is 125 feet high.

London's newest and tallest hotel, the 18-story Carlton Tower in Knightsbridge, has radio and television in every bedroom.

### THEY SAY . . .

TEENAGERS are more like adults than adults have sometimes been tempted to suppose. They are not creatures of another breed living in a world to which grown-ups have no entry.

Dr. C. M. Fleming, of London University

## Meet two champion cooks

It was a proud and happy moment for the boy and the girl in this photograph. They had just been proclaimed winners of the titles Master Therm and Miss Therm in the final of a nationwide competition organised by the Gas Council.

Master Therm is John Tyler of Wisbech Grammar School. Miss Therm is Linda Shelley of Regent's Park School, Southampton. And when the C.N. man spoke to them they had just finished a very hard day at London's Café Royal competing with 22 other young finalists.

In one of the big ballrooms of the famous restaurant there were eight cookers and eight refrigerators, fed by 300 feet of gaspipe specially installed for the day from the basement and up a lift shaft to the fourth floor.

### She forgot the salt

Each contestant had to produce a tasty meal from the ingredients placed in front of them. John and Linda, both 15 years old, were each faced with a piece of lamb and tackled it in individual style. John decided on lamb chops and then produced a handsome apricot sponge. Linda roasted her piece of lamb and followed it up with some luscious meringue to make a Queen of Puddings.

"The lamb was all right," she

said, "only I forgot to put salt in the sprouts." But considering that she had to do her thinking and planning in such nerve-racking surroundings, who could blame her? And, anyway, she was not the only competitor to forget the salt.

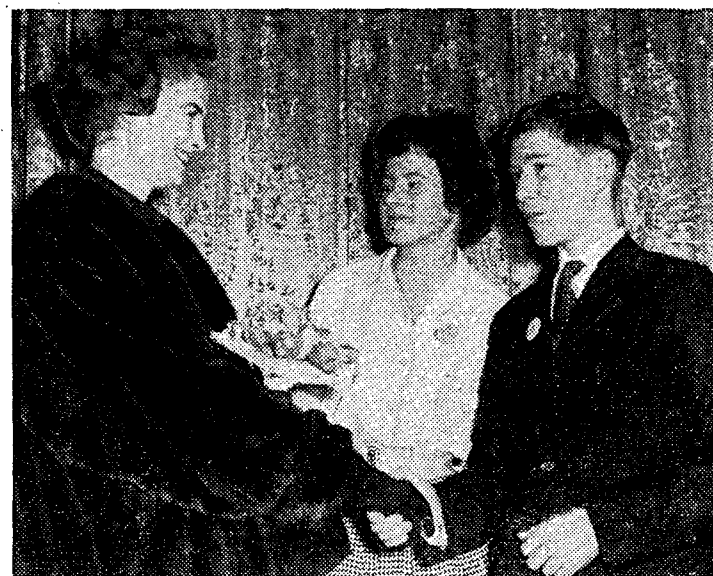
"Are you going to be a chef when you leave school?" John was asked.

"No fear!" said John. "I want to be a scientist."

Asked what they would do with

the prize money—each received £100 in Premium Bonds—John said his would go into savings, and Linda announced that she meant to buy a tape-recorder. And she is planning a career, too, not of making up tasty dishes but of making up artists in a TV studio.

Meanwhile, we can say Well Done, Master Therm and Miss Therm of 1961, and wish them both the best of luck in all the years to come.



Congratulations from Lady Barnett—and smiles all round



## PRIZE SPACE SUIT



This scene from a new film called *Man in the Moon* shows Kenneth More in a space suit that is part of the first prize offered in an interesting competition now being run by Playcraft Toys. The lucky winner will also receive a junior space suit, a £50 hamper of toys, a day out in London, and a visit to a film studio.

In this competition, which is open to all children between eight and 15, contestants are asked to select six toys from a possible 16 that they would most like to take to the Moon.

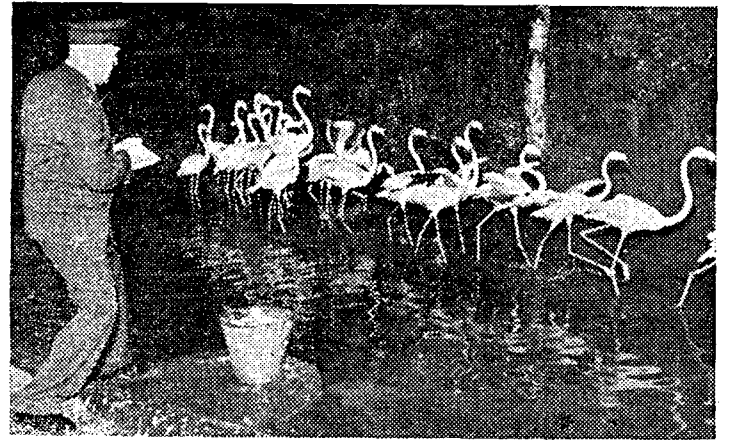
There are lots of other prizes to be won in this competition, which will run until 31st March. Children can get entry forms from their local Rank cinema or from toy shops and stores.

## Medal for the lavender man

For the past 50 years Mr. James Hide has been cultivating lavender plants at Hitchin, Hertfordshire. In that time he has cultivated more than 50,000 plants. Now, to mark his long service, the Royal Horticultural Society has presented him with a medal.

Mr. Hide, a sprightly 81, feels that he can carry on for several years yet in this very old industry. Lavender-growing began as long ago as 1563, when some of the first plants to reach this country from the Continent were cultivated at Hitchin.

## Counting heads at the zoo



All livestock at London Zoo has to be carefully counted every year. One of the keepers is here seen counting heads as the flamingoes troop by for the annual check.

## Viking warrior of long ago

The tomb of a 5th-century Viking warrior found recently near Söderhamn, on the Gulf of Bothnia, is only the second of the kind to come to light in Sweden. With the warrior's remains were his sword, shield, and spear, together with objects such as food vessels and devices for making fire, which were buried with him in the belief that he would need them during his wanderings after death.

The finds are now in the Historical Museum in Stockholm.

## NO DANCING ON THE BUS

"Buses that sing sweetly"—that is the name given by Africans in Rhodesia to vehicles that have tape recorders playing popular music. Tried on one bus in Salisbury as an added attraction for passengers, the experiment has been highly successful. Seventy more buses are now being provided with tape recorder music to keep the passengers happy on long journeys. They can sing to their hearts' content, but dancing is frowned on by the bus company officials.

## UNDERWATER HOLIDAYS

Among the delights offered by the Youth Hostels Association this year are underwater swimming holidays in Salcombe, Devon. Equipment, boat, and instruction will be provided to enable amateur skin divers to explore regions

abundant in marine life in the Salcombe estuary and along the adjoining coastline.

Other inexpensive Y.H.A. holidays include riding courses in the New Forest, pony trekking on Dartmoor, practical archaeology under expert guidance in Wales and Wiltshire, bird-watching at Llangollen, geology study walks, sailing, and canoeing.

A new idea to be tried out this year is *Rucksack Theatre*. A company of amateur actors and stage hands will rehearse for a week and then "barnstorm" hostels for the following seven evenings. It should be grand fun.

Details of these holidays can be obtained from the Y.H.A. at Trevelyan House, St. Albans, Hertfordshire.

## FEWER VISITORS AT THE ZOOS

Both the London and Whipsnade Zoos had fewer visitors last year; but there can be little doubt the wet Summer was to blame.

The total of 1,838,907 visitors at Regent's Park was the lowest for 15 years. Whipsnade had 641,446 visitors, a figure only slightly down on the previous year.

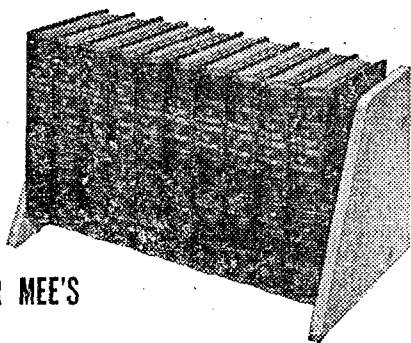
## C N prizewinners

The five £1 prizes in our "C objects" competition were awarded to: Philip Andrews, Sherwood; Judith Beardsley, Bulwell; Elaine Bowers, Chesterfield; Dennis Moore, Middlesbrough; and Mary Wright, Ventnor.

These ten runners-up won 10s. each: Malcolm Bailiss, Coalville; Jacqueline Brooks, Bristol; Alan Brown, York; William Hill, Bungay; Honor Loveridge, Banstead; Robert Pike, Bromley; Jennifer Taylor, Burton-on-Trent; Geoffrey Timbrell, Hatch End; Richard Winter, Solihull; and Nadine Wright, Birmingham.

# TWO GREAT REFERENCE WORKS for boys and girls who want to get on !

TO HELP YOU AT SCHOOL



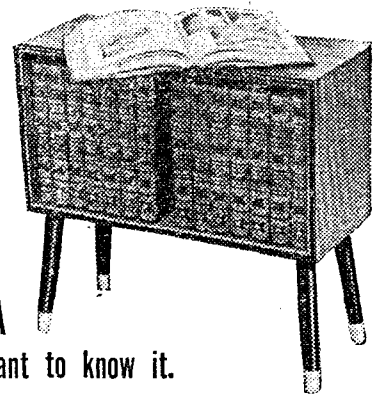
ARTHUR MEE'S

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## Pony ride on the road to adventure

THE discovery of the ruins of an old inn, half hidden in a wood, sparks off an exciting train of adventures in *The Silent Highwayman* in B.B.C. Junior TV next Tuesday (24th January). Written and produced by David Goddard, the story concerns the vivid imagination of Jill, a young girl spending her Christmas holidays on a farm with her sister Claire and brother-in-law Nick.

One of the outstanding characters is Jill's pony. David Goddard says: "This animal has little sense of direction and no real interest in anything except his stomach."

It is while wandering around aimlessly on the pony that Jill

finds the ruins. She thinks how interesting it would be to trace their history, and wishes she could do so. But the consequences are quite different from the usual results of wishful thinking.

Somewhat she manages to transport herself into a kind of flashback to the time of 150 years ago, when all sorts of strange things were happening.

Jill is played by Katy Wild, who appeared in David Goddard's last serial, *Sheep's Clothing*. Trevor Martin and Peter Diamond are two Bow Street runners, and Peter Welch is a poacher who knows more about the ruins than he cares to admit.



Katy Wild and the pony which leads her into exciting adventures in *The Silent Highwayman*

## Terence Morgan will play Sir Francis Drake

TERENCE MORGAN, the young British film actor, has won the coveted part of Sir Francis Drake in A.T.V.'s forthcoming film series, *King of the Seas*, about which I told you last week. He was chosen from 40 "possibles," eleven of whom were given a film test.

Executive Producer Leslie Harris told me that many sequences will be filmed on location at sea using a reconstruction of Drake's famous ship *The Golden Hind*.



Terence Morgan

"We have been fortunate to find a ship already in existence that can be converted into a replica as nearly perfect as we can judge from the history books," said Mr. Harris.

She is the *Centurion*, now lying in the mud at Blackwater in Essex. *Centurion* was built ten years ago in connection with the 250th anniversary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. She is a half-size replica of the ship which took the first S.P.G. missionaries to North America in 1702. But, as Mr. Harris pointed out, she is almost exactly the size of Drake's little vessel.

A half-section of the ship, with five decks, is being erected in the A.B.C. studios at Boreham Wood. She will be fitted with rollers to simulate storm conditions.



## Down in the New Forest

PHOTOGRAPHING deer and other wild creatures in the New Forest without being detected by them was the hobby of farmer Eric Ashby. But Eric Ashby was himself being trailed by the B.B.C. Natural History Unit.

They found that Mr. Ashby had made several hundred feet of astonishingly good film showing deer, foxes, and badgers at close quarters. As a consequence, he was commissioned to continue the good work for the B.B.C. on a special plan.

At 8.30 p.m. this Thursday we can see the results for the first time on television, with a commentary by Johnny Morris. The B.B.C. believe it may make Eric Ashby famous overnight.

## PIPER, TAMBOURINE BAND, AND BOG-WHEELERS

WEE 12-year-old Eddie Hutcherson from Aberdeen looks like walking off with the honours in *All Your Own* on B.B.C. Junior TV next Sunday. At the invitation of talent scout Joanne Symons, he is coming specially to London to play his bagpipes in the studio and give a selection on the accordion. He is a guitarist, too.

Later in the programme, Eddie will greet the tambourine band formed by teenage girls of Swindon. Piper Eddie will lead them on the march, playing *Scotland the Brave*.

Three Darlington "bog-wheelers" are also star guests. These 14-year-old boys—Peter Saville, Ronald Boyd, and Stephen Slater—strip down old bicycles, mudguards included, and fit specially reinforced tyres.

Then they go cross-country riding through all the mud they can find. January and February are their harvest months—for mud.

The boys belong to the bog-wheeling section of the Grammar School of Queen Elizabeth at Darlington.

## MUSIC THAT HELPS TO BUILD UP SUSPENSE

MOST of you are familiar with "cliff-hanger" stories, so-called from the silent film serials in which an instalment often ended with the heroine hanging desperately over a cliff edge. But have you ever thought about "cliff-hanger" music?

Alan Paul, the B.B.C. staff composer, has been telling me about the special suspense tunes he has written for *The Web of Caesar*, Howard Jones' new thriller serial beginning on Children's Hour next Friday.

"Harold Smart at the organ and myself at the piano are going to play up the cliff-hanger idea in a big way," said Alan. "At the end of each instalment, after the characters have stopped talking, my tunes will sizzle with mystery and trail off without a final chord at the point we take them up again the following week."

"Caesar" is the code name of a secret gang who are chasing the



Alan Paul

blueprints of an important scientific discovery made by a mystery man with a violin case. He comes to Dr. John Haddon's surgery saying he is frightened. Is he really in danger?

## Title wanted for Adrian Hill

ADRIAN HILL is famous as the artist who conducts *Skech Club* in B.B.C. Junior TV. But how can we describe his job? Owen Reed, head of B.B.C. Junior TV, put the poser to me the other day. "There's no word that seems to fit," he said. "We can't call him an 'anchor man'—that is better applied to people like Eamonn Andrews in *Crackerjack* and Richard Dimbleby in *Panorama*. You see, Adrian Hill doesn't simply set other people working and talking. He does it all himself!"

## This clown is a villain

SCENES have been filmed at the Unesco building in Paris for *The Mask of the Clown*, A.T.V.'s new six-part Sunday afternoon serial which begins this week. The story is unusual in having a black-bearded Sikh as the hero. He is Dr. Ranjit Singh (John Carson), a high-minded man who has discovered a cheap method of extracting salt from sea water which could be of immense benefit to the arid zones of the world.



Peter Hempton

It could make his fortune, but the only reward he seeks is the satisfaction of knowing it could be used to help undeveloped countries at comparatively low cost. So he goes with his plans to the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organisation.

There is a secret villain, however, whose fingers are itching for

the plans so that he may make a fortune for himself. He runs a Paris puppet museum and is seen disguised as a clown. His first step is to kidnap the doctor's 12-year-old son Kishan (Peter Hempton). Two other children in the story are a Spanish girl Teresa (Olga Mena) and an Australian, Claude "Snow" Nolan (Sean Scully).

John Carson, whose last children's serial was *Formula for Danger*, told me he likes the idea of getting behind a beard! "I was born in Ceylon and mixed with Sinhalese and Indians quite a lot in my younger days. The Sikhs, by the way, are very mechanically-minded, so the part of Ranjit Singh is quite in character."



Olga Mena

Junior TV with Gillian Ferguson in *The Secret Garden*, Peter has a long list of I.T.V. shows to his credit.

Olga Mena (12) really is Spanish. Like Peter, she is a pupil at the Corona Stage School, but this will be her first professional performance. Besides her native Spanish, she talks fluent French and Italian.



Sean Scully

Sean Scully (12) needs no introduction to viewers who saw him as "Snow" Nolan in I.T.V.'s *Mill of Secrets*. He is the same character this time, on holiday in Paris.

Sean Scully came to England with his mother a year ago and got himself into show business on his own initiative. "I went on my own to the agents because I didn't want to bother Mother," he told me. "She was too busy fixing up our new flat."



# SCIENTISTS IN THE BATTLE FOR ROAD SAFETY

MANY of those accidents which help to swell the tragic monthly lists of people killed and injured on Britain's roads could be avoided if we knew more about the causes.

That is the opinion of the scientists at the Road Research Laboratory, and they are now making every effort to discover why accidents happen and which types of roads and crossings are the safest for all types of road users.

At Crowthorne, deep in forest land ten miles south-west of Windsor, our highway scientists have a new test track where they can carry out any type of experiment likely to improve our roads and the vehicles that travel on them.

The new test track, which has been built at a cost of about £500,000, consists of three miles of roadway in the form of a figure-of-eight, with a big concrete "pan"—900 feet in diameter—in the centre.

## Studying skidding

Apart from a banked bend and a short length of skid track, which are both made of reinforced concrete, the track consists of sections on which any new type of surface can be laid for fresh experiments.

One of the most important series of tests being carried out there is aimed at reducing the damage caused by skidding. It is known that even the best drivers cannot avoid skidding under certain conditions, but the scientists want to know which types of road

surface reduce these risks to the minimum.

That is why there is the banked bend. It will allow expert drivers to work up to a very high speed before they come into the "skidding straight," at the end of which is a big spade-shaped area (the skid pan). A built-in array of water sprays along 800 yards of the track keeps the whole surface as slippery as possible.

One section of track has glass windows built into it. Below is a small laboratory from which the scientists can see exactly what happens to tyres when they are in contact with the ground.

## New type of tyre

They have already been able to design an entirely new type of tyre which greatly reduces the distance a car travels between emergency braking and stopping. In a demonstration of this, two similar cars were used. One was fitted with ordinary tyres and the other had a set of the new ones. The two cars raced side by side into the skid pan and, at a given signal, both drivers applied their brakes. The car with ordinary tyres skidded for over 30 feet past the new-tyre car. As soon as production problems are worked out it is expected the new type of tyres will be made available to motorists everywhere.

Another big problem that the road scientists are tackling is how to drive safely in fog. To help them solve this, the whole of the track has been laid with wires which can emit signals to be picked up by simple electronic devices in the vehicles on the road. The aim of this work is to help drivers steer a safe course through and round hazards even in the densest fog, and to warn them of other vehicles ahead.

The central area of the track is used for testing layouts for busy road junctions and roundabouts. Any type of experimental design can be built up in an hour or two, and with about



The vast central area used for testing layouts of road junctions and roundabouts

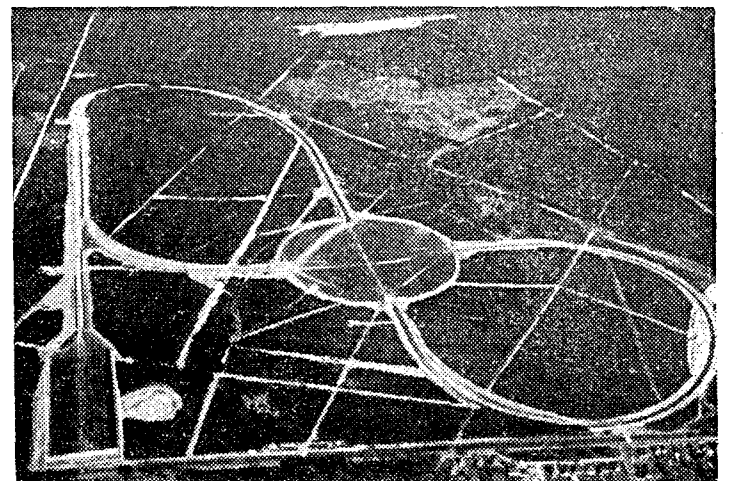
two or three dozen vehicles of various types moving quickly through the junction it has been found possible to simulate the heaviest flow of traffic.

The experimental layouts are marked out with white kerbs of various shapes, and temporary traffic lights are installed to give proper control. It is only a matter of a few minutes' work to alter the design and try a new arrangement.

## What causes a crash?

It is one thing to design what appears to be a perfect road, but it is another matter to find out what causes accidents. The Road Research Laboratory has a team of experts standing by to go to the scene of any crash west of London as soon as it is reported. Detailed studies are then made of the condition of the road surface, the traffic on the road at the time, and any other data which can help to build up a complete picture of what happened. Many valuable lessons have been learnt from these on-the-spot examinations.

One part of the laboratory's work which is already having good results in many parts of the country has been devoted to preventing ice forming on dangerous hills, bridge approaches, and



An aerial view of the complete track at Crowthorne, Berkshire

ramps. Scientists designed various forms of electric heating coils which could be buried just below the road surface and which could build up enough heat to keep any moisture on the surface well above freezing point.

The Road Research Laboratory has a big fleet of cars and other vehicles for its various tests, and every seat in every vehicle is fitted with a safety belt.

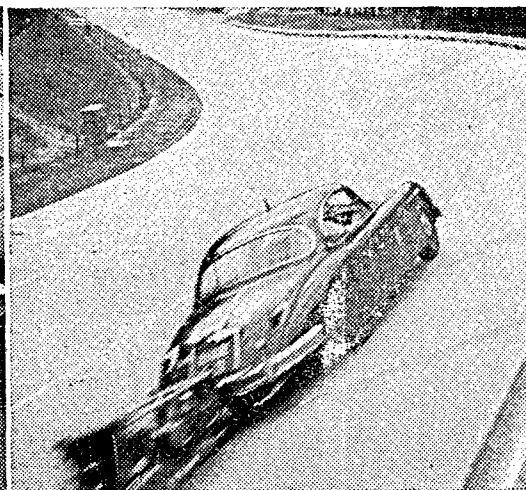
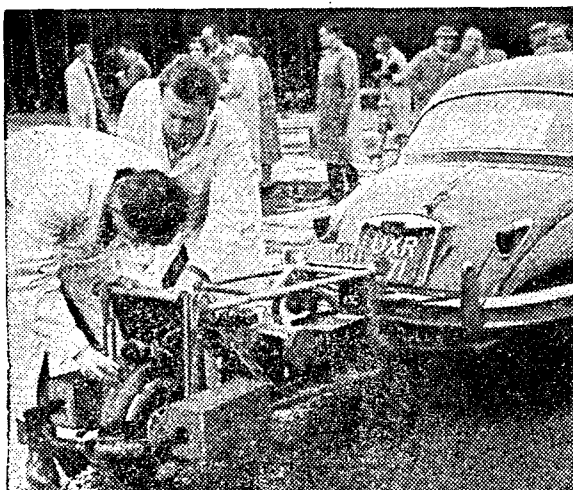
One of the newest types of nylon safety harness which is soon to be tried out is one which disappears into the car seats when not

in use. It gives almost complete freedom of movement to the wearer when the car is moving normally, but the moment the brakes are applied the whole harness locks back against the seat to prevent the wearer being thrown forward against the dashboard or windscreen.

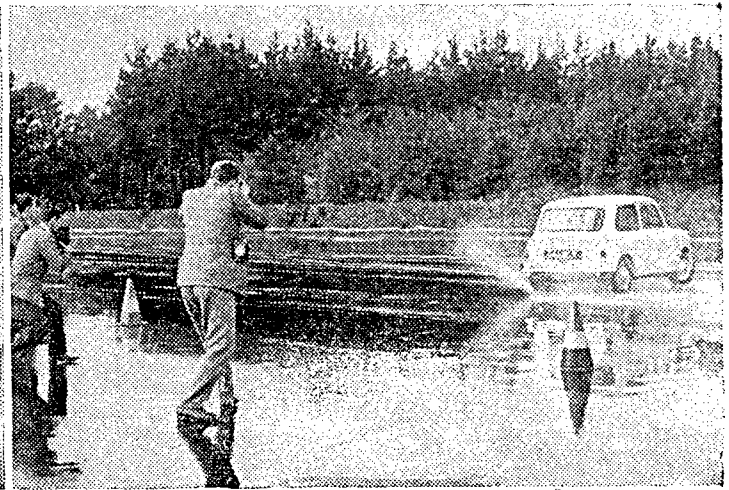
The half-million pounds that the Crowthorne track cost will have been well spent if the scientists there succeed in making our roads the safest in the world. Their work is a matter of life and death to tens of thousands.



Demonstrating a new type of safety belt



Attaching (left) and testing a trailer used for measuring high-speed skids



This is what happens when brakes are applied in the skid pan



# MR THERM'S ABC

Issued by the Gas Council.

Gas spells speed and efficiency. In this series, Mr. Therm shows you just some of the very important roles he plays in Britain to-day.

**J** is for **JETS**, and the big gas turbine engines which run them. But it isn't Mr. Therm's sort of gas! The gas in a gas turbine is the hot vapour which results from burning a mixture of aviation fuel and air. Quite a small quantity of liquid fuel, when mixed with air and burned in the combustion chambers of a gas turbine, expands into hot gases. These gases rush from the combustion chambers and in doing so spin the rotor of the turbine. On the rotor of the turbine is a rotary compressor, which sucks in more air at the front of the jet to burn with the fuel. This makes the turbine spin, which works the compressor, which sucks in more air, and so the cycle continues.

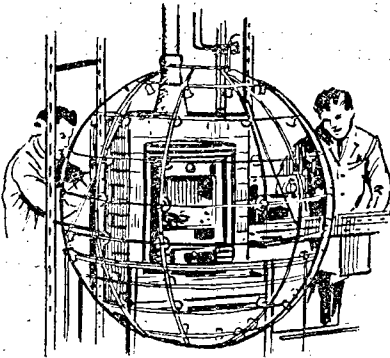
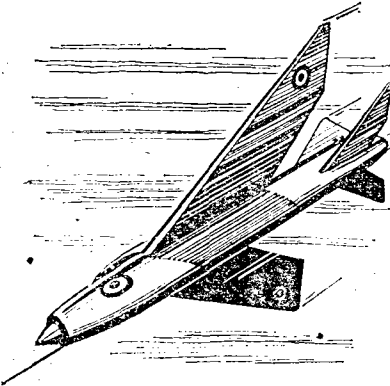
Mr. Therm plays an important part in making jet aeroplanes. Gas is used very widely in Britain's important aircraft industry, because it is reliable, speedy, and easily controlled.



**K** is for **KITCHEN** where Mr. Therm reigns supreme. Whether he's engaged in cooking the dinner, heating water, or cooling the refrigerator, Mr. Therm is always readily to hand. Surprisingly William Murdoch, the pioneer of gas lighting, didn't think gas was useful for heating, and it wasn't until 1824 that a sort of gas cooker was put on the market. It was made of a gun barrel. Gas grew in popularity through the 19th century, and pictures of gas cookers appeared in the pages of Mrs. Beeton's celebrated cookery book. The cookers of those days were heavy cast iron affairs, not at all like the gleaming white one Mummy has to-day. We even have gas cookers nowadays which cook the meal while Mummy goes shopping.

**L** is for **LABORATORIES** at Watson House, the fascinating building in London, where all research for the Gas Council is done. Here every make of gas appliance—cooker, water heater, refrigerator—is thoroughly tested by experts to make sure it will give years and years of excellent service. Gas cookers, for example, are "bashed about" so that in a few weeks they get more than the equivalent of a lifetime's hard wear. And fires are very carefully tested.

The Watson House experts place what looks like a very large fireguard around a gas or coke fire, and so can measure exactly what heat it's giving out. They've even built an entire house inside Watson House, so that they can study the problems of heating!



## PRIZES TO BE WON

### HERE'S WHAT TO DO

Add one letter in place of each dot to complete the words in the panels—they are all objects to be found in the picture.

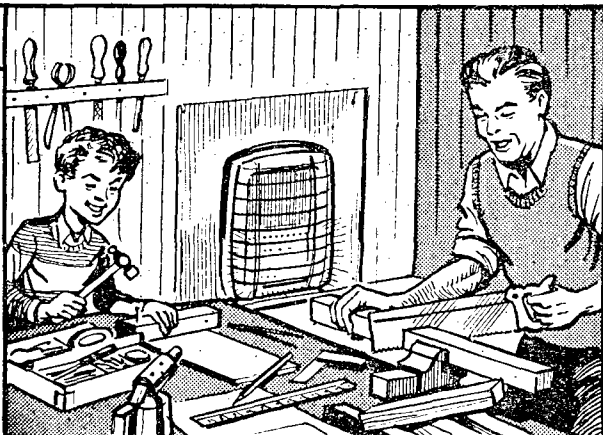
List the six answers neatly on a postcard, add your full name, age and address, then post it to:

Mr. Therm's A.B.C. No. 4, Children's Newspaper, 3 Pilgrim Street, E.C.4 (Comp.).

Mr. Therm will award £2 2s. Book Tokens for the three nearest correct entries (with writing according to age taken into consideration) received by Friday, 27th January.

### CHRISTMAS CAROL WINNERS

The winners of Mr. Therm's Christmas Carol Competition No. 1: Caroline Ramsay of Scarborough, John Letton of Ringmer, and David Silver of Stanmore.



G A S F · R ·

B · N · H

H · M M · R

· E N · I L

R · L E ·

S · W

# NEVER MIND THE WEATHER GAS KEEPS YOU SNUG

## Britain's national bird is the robin

BRITAIN now has a national bird, the robin, selected as representative of this country by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds. And I have little doubt that the robin would still have won if it had been possible to hold a complete national referendum.

The idea of each nation having its national bird arose at the Tokyo conference of the International Council for Bird Preservation last May. It was held that the idea would stimulate interest in bird protection. As a result, Lord Hurcomb, chairman of the British Section of the Council, wrote to *The Times* last October, asking for readers' views.

A great number of replies were received, and among them were such facetious suggestions as mudlark, ostrich, and Christopher Robin. A remarkably wide range of other suggestions included the avocet, cuckoo, curlew, eagle, osprey, oystercatcher, puffin, raven, redshank, and swan. But in the end the robin proved an easy winner, followed by the grouse, wren, bullfinch, and plover.

The result of the R.S.P.B.'s poll, conducted through its journal, *Bird Notes*, was pretty much the same as that of *The Times*, with the robin well at the head of the poll.

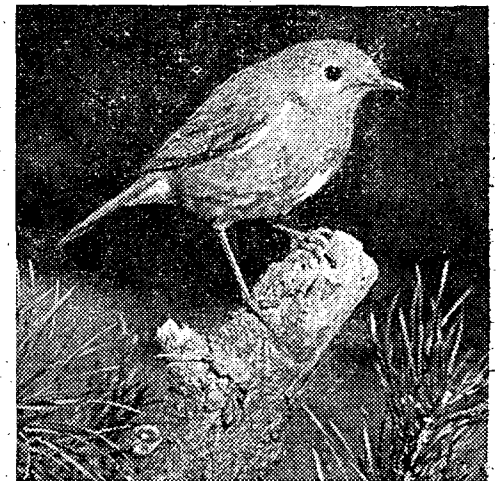
### Universal favourite

It is fairly easy to understand why the robin has been chosen, for of all familiar birds, it is the universal favourite, and the one everybody can instantly recognise. Nor must it be forgotten that one of the first things children learn is to lament its death in rhyme.

The robin is one of the tamest of wild creatures. It will often wait patiently near a gardener till he turns up a worm with his spade, and then dart down and fly off with it. Moreover, this tameness is found especially in British robins. On the Continent, where, alas, robins are still sometimes eaten, they tend to be very shy

woodland birds, rarely coming near human beings. Their place as garden birds is often taken by the common redstart.

Attractive to look at, with its rounded figure and red waistcoat, the robin is also an entirely beneficial insect-eating bird. Most other familiar birds have some habit that does not endear them



Top of the Poll—the ever-popular robin  
John Markham

to everyone alike; they may eat the farmer's grain (like pigeons and sparrows), or fruit (like blackbirds and thrushes), or perhaps a fish that anglers like to catch. The robin does not offend in any of these ways, and that is one reason why everybody likes it.

### Overseas choice

It will be interesting to see what other countries choose as their national birds. The Danes have already selected the skylark, a bird that sings in great numbers over the flat cultivated lands of Jutland and other parts of Denmark.

It is believed that Holland is about to choose the lapwing, another typical bird of agricultural country.

The Germans may perhaps take the white stork, whose red bill and black-and-white plumage embody their national colours so that it is already in some ways treated as a national bird. The United States of America will no doubt choose the bald-headed eagle; indeed, it is already recognised as the American national bird.

RICHARD FITTER

## MORE IN THE AIR

More people flew last year than ever before. Altogether 108 million passengers were carried by the airlines of countries in the International Civil Aircraft Organisation, which includes the airlines of most countries except the Soviet Union and China.

The steady growth of bigger and faster aircraft in the past three years enabled airlines to carry more passengers without the need to increase flying hours. Despite

the increase in faster planes, however, the average speed has risen by only 28 miles an hour since the giant turbine-powered aircraft came into service six years ago, when the average speed was 193 m.p.h.

This year 130 new jets will increase the world total of these aircraft to about 560. This will raise not only the average speed but also the number of passengers to an estimated 118 million.



# STRANGE REALM OF ATOMIC ENERGY



Inside one of the cooling towers at Calder Hall

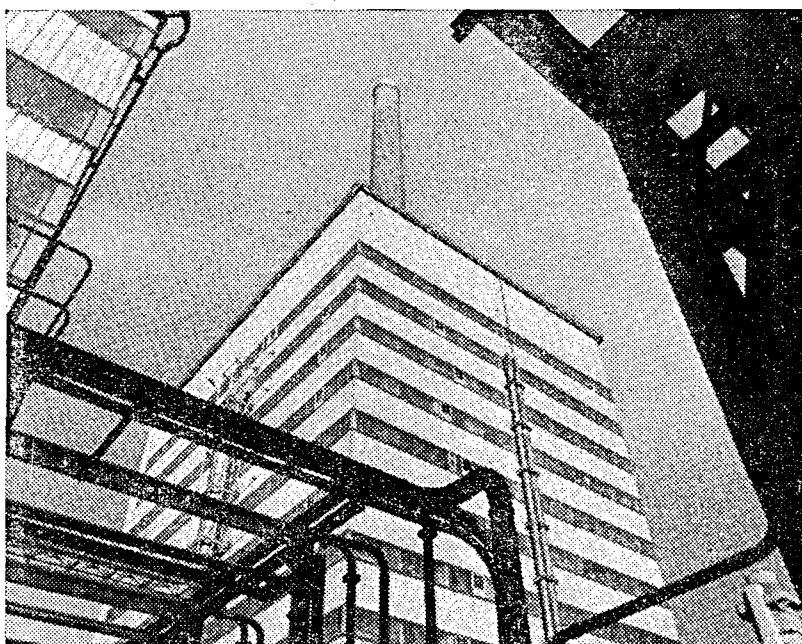
NEARLY half a century ago H. G. Wells forecast that Britain would have atomic power stations by 1953. He was three years out.

Britain's first atomic power station, Calder Hall, was opened in 1956. Today there is a second station at Chapelcross; and by 1968 there will be ten such stations providing electric light and power in various parts of the country.

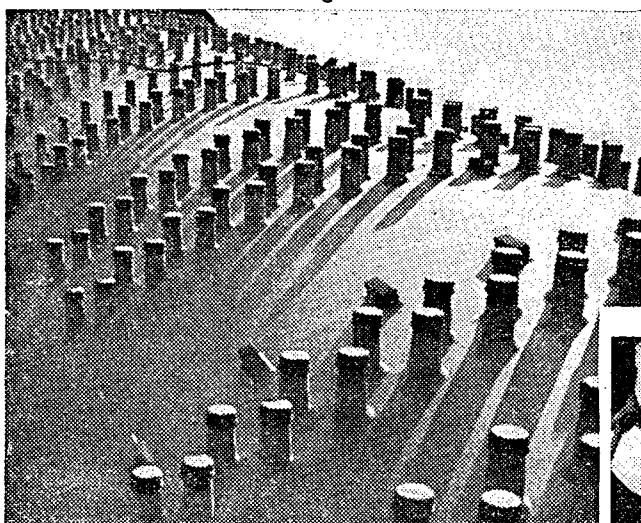
How does an atomic power station differ from the ordinary power station? Well, the only major difference lies in the method of obtaining steam to drive the turbines. Instead of obtaining heat from oil or coal, the atomic station relies on nuclear reaction resulting from the splitting of uranium atoms.

The way this reaction is produced and controlled is illustrated by wonderful photographs and working models at an exhibition open until 11th February at Ilford House, 133 Oxford Street, London. Admission is free.

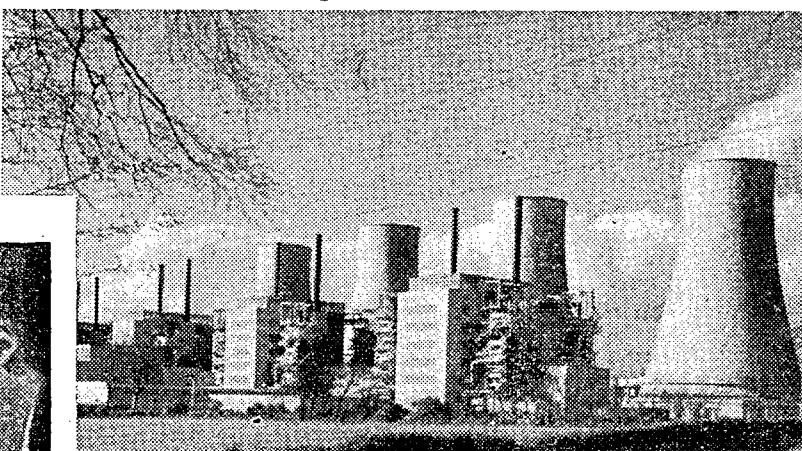
The exhibition also gives glimpses of the work being done at the various development and research centres, such as Harwell—glimpses, for instance, of the handling of radioisotopes, those by-products of atomic energy which are already playing a vital role in industry, agriculture, and medicine.



The primary preparation plant at the Windscale works, Cumberland, for dealing with irradiated fuel



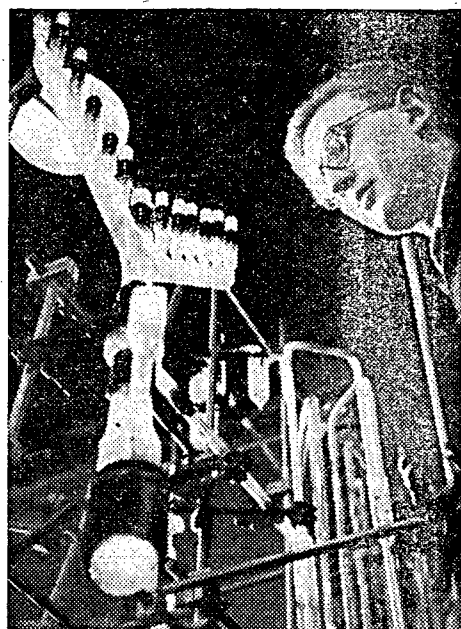
Weird shape of a heat exchanger at Calder Hall



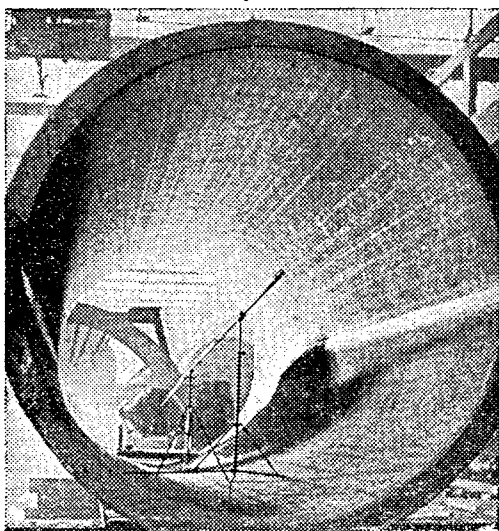
Giant reactors at Chapelcross Nuclear Power Station, Dumfriesshire



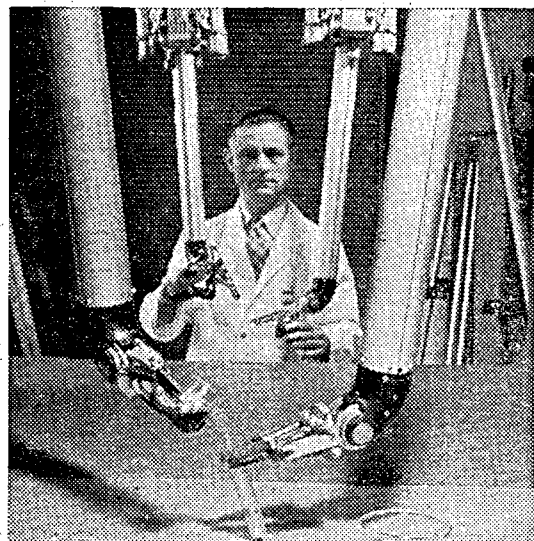
A lead wall to protect a worker



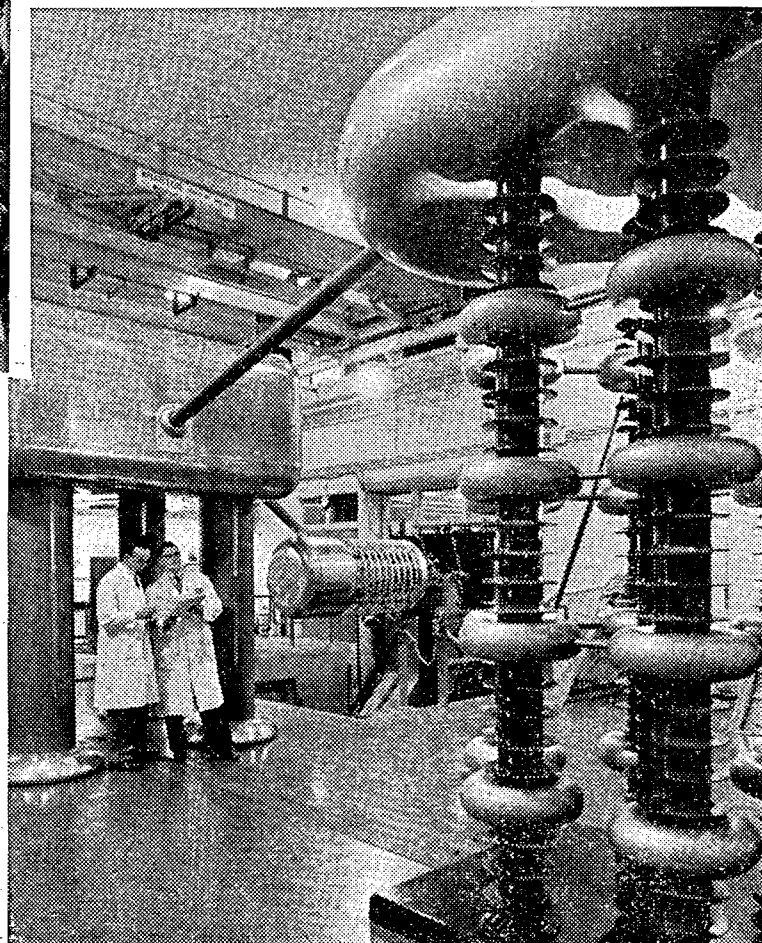
Apparatus for tracing carbon



Checking a welded joint with a radioisotope



Robot hands guided by remote control



Corner of the atomic research centre at Harwell



# This is the house that Jack will live in

Mr. and Mrs. Eisenhower are bidding farewell this week to the White House in Washington, their home for so many years, and President "Jack" Kennedy is moving in with his wife and two young children. Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy—"Jacky" to all her friends—has stated that her first duty will be taking care of the President and their children "who probably won't see as much of their father as ordinary children." As every wife and mother in the world knows, these duties will keep her well occupied; but in addition she will have all the duties that fall to the First Lady in the land and hostess of the most important house in the United States.

THE story of the White House goes back to 1792, when an Irishman named James Hoban won a 500-dollar prize for the best design for a house for America's first President, George Washington. Work on it began immediately, but Washington died before its completion, and not until 1800 was the house sufficiently ready for the second President to move in. This was John Adams, and his wife Abigail was the first First Lady to preside over the White House. In those days, however, it was not the "desirable residence" that a President's wife might reasonably expect, and Abigail Adams had much to complain of—damp walls, many of them unplastered, no bells to summon servants, and rooms grimly bare.

Gradually the White House became more comfortable—and acquired more than enough furniture. Presidents Monroe and Jackson and Van Buren all collected elegant French furniture, and their successors, including Lincoln, followed with the plush and horsehair favoured in their time; and when President Chester



The White House, Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington.

Arthur arrived, in 1881, he packed off 24 cartloads of it to make way for his own. It was just before his term that bathrooms were installed, and also a single telephone.

In Theodore Roosevelt's time it became officially the White House, and was completely rebuilt. It was again reconstructed between 1948 and 1952 at a cost of nearly six million dollars, but it has never been allowed to lose its character, and it still reflects its historic rôle with dignity.

Because of its symmetry, the White House does not look particularly big; but actually it is 170 feet long, 85 feet wide, 58 feet high, and contains 132 rooms—and 20 baths. On the lower floor are many rooms displaying Presidential portraits and sculpture and personal relics. On the main floor above are the great

rooms of State. Above are the private rooms of the President and his household—rooms seen by few other than personal friends. Among these is the President's Study, an oval room where Abraham Lincoln used to read a chapter of the Bible every morning.

Such, briefly, is the famous White House, which stands so serenely in its lovely 18-acre park at Washington, and has been the scene of American State gatherings for more than 160 years.



President Kennedy and his wife

## ON RECORD New discs to note

**MARTY ROBBINS:** *More Gun-fighter Ballads And Trail Songs* on Fontana TFL5113. Marty has become very popular among disc-buyers for his songs of the West. On this long player he once again combines traditional melodies with his own compositions. Most successful are the folk songs, in particular the haunting *Streets of Laredo*. (LP. 35s. 9½d.)

**BILL BRAMWELL:** *Candid Camera Theme* on Decca F11309. Bill's guitar theme has become as popular as the television programme it introduces. Bill plays the guitar here and provides the "scat" singing, while Johnny Scott adds his piccolo. (45. 6s.)

**VICTORIA DE LOS ANGELES:** *La Bohème* on HMV 7ER5190. The Spanish soprano has achieved especial fame with the Puccini opera *La Bohème*. This recording contains an extract from the last act, with Miss de los Angeles at her most poignant. (EP. 14s. 7d.)

**DAVE BRUBECK and LEONARD BERNSTEIN:** *Bernstein Plays Brubeck Plays Bernstein* on Fontana TFL 5114. On one side of this disc Leonard Bernstein conducts the New York Philharmonic Orchestra and the Brubeck Quartet, with Dave Brubeck at the piano. They play some *Dialogues* written by Dave's brother, Howard, who is a professor of music in California. To complete the record, Dave Brubeck and his group play some of the music written by Bernstein for *West Side Story*. This is an interesting disc which shows how well a first-class jazz group can blend with a symphony orchestra. (LP. 35s. 9½d.)



Leonard Bernstein

**BARRY SISTERS:** *Misty* on Columbia DB4562. Gloria and Merna Barry are great favourites



among American television audiences. Their polished performance and close harmony singing should make them just as popular in this country. (45. 6s.)

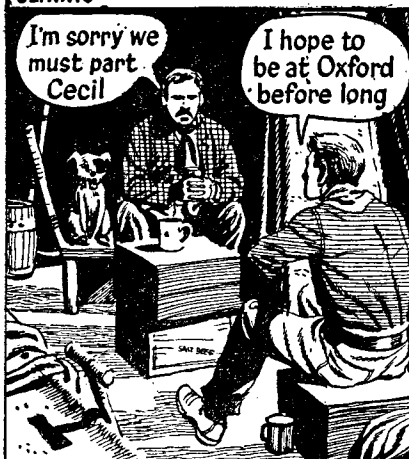
**B.B.C. COMMENTATORS:** *Sporting Highlights of 1960* on Pye NPL 18060. This disc gathers together all the important sporting events of last year, as described by the various commentators. Naturally, since this was the year of the Olympics, there is much excitement, and it is well recapitulated. (LP. 34s. 1½d.)

**JAMES McKECHNIE:** *The Story of the Old Testament* on Atlas Tale Spinner EN 10.006/7. James McKechnie, famous radio actor, is the narrator in this two-part story of the Old Testament. Against the music of César Franck, McKechnie and the Atlas Theatre Company relate stories of our Bible. (LP. 22s. 6d.)

**ROBERT IRVING:** *Musical Merry-Go-Round* on HMV CLP 1409. Robert Irving conducts the Sinfonia of London on this musical picture of Clowns and Circuses. (LP. 34s. 1½d.)

## CENTRAL AFRICAN PIONEER—the story of Cecil Rhodes (4)

WHEN THE RHODES BROTHERS RETURNED TO KIMBERLEY, HERBERT DECIDED TO TRY GOLD-MINING, AND SOLD HIS DIAMOND CLAIMS.



BUT CECIL BOUGHT SEVERAL NEW DIAMOND CLAIMS, AND HIS SUCCESS BECAME THE TALK OF KIMBERLEY



YET CECIL'S GREATEST DESIRE WAS STILL TO GO TO OXFORD. LEAVING A PARTNER IN CHARGE OF HIS DIAMOND DIGGINGS, HE RETURNED TO ENGLAND



AT OXFORD HE WAS TURNED DOWN BY UNIVERSITY COLLEGE



IS THIS THE END OF CECIL'S HIGHEST HOPES? SEE NEXT WEEK'S INSTALMENT



# THE CONWAYS TAKE COVER

by Geoffrey Morgan

*Suspecting that Dr. Bredon is secretly working on a wreck containing stolen gold, Fergie and the Conways eagerly join Mr. Thompson, the coastguard, in his plan to bring the crooks to justice. Thompson believes that Barry, the new occupant of the cottage on Stavelly Creek, is really Captain Boniface, who has Bredon and his gang under observation, and his plan is to contact Inspector Langton and meet Fergie and the Conways at the cottage that afternoon. Arriving early, Fergie suggests they watch the cottage from the old mill close by, but before they can settle down Mr. Thompson arrives and beckons them.*

## 15. Trapped!

FERGIE led Jerry and Jane down from the old mill and across a patch of soft, squelching turf up on to a track that eventually brought them alongside the creek wall, and they ran towards the cottage.

It was a square, single-story building standing back from the grass-covered wall of the creek, on a small plateau. It was surrounded by a riot of weeds, tangled bushes, and long grass inside a fence of dead elder stubs which formed the boundary of what at one time had been a garden. The tiny windows in the thick stone walls were broken, and there were gaps in the slates on the roof.

They were about a hundred yards away when they saw Mr. Thompson try the door. It opened and he stepped inside.

Fergie slowed to a smart walking pace.

"He's gone in!" he exclaimed. "Didn't see anyone open up for him."

"Looks deserted to me," Jerry observed.

Jane caught up, walking between the two boys.

"It just gives me the creeps," she whispered.

## "The bird has flown"

As they approached Mr. Thompson stepped out on to the path.

"I'm afraid the bird has flown," he announced.

"You mean—he's moved out?" Jerry queried, voicing his companions' surprise as well as his own, as they joined the coastguard in front of the half-open door.

"It seems like it. I thought the rooms looked empty when I glanced through the windows." He pushed the door with his foot. "I've just been into the passage and called. There's no reply."

The young trio peered into the shadowy hall. The wallpaper was shredding and spotted with damp.

The remains of a cheap strip of matting partially covered the stone floor. There was a musty smell.

"But where could he have gone, and why?" Fergie fixed his questioning eyes on Thompson. "If he's really Captain Boniface and he was watching things on Gullmarsh Island, why should he move out of here before the diving operations are finished?"

"Unless they are finished," Jerry suggested. "And he's now on the island."

"It's possible," said Mr. Thompson. "But that's still no reason why he should move his belongings. We'll find out soon enough, though, once Inspector Langton gets here. He'll know what action to take."

"We thought he was coming with you," Jane said.

"No, he arranged to meet me here," Mr. Thompson glanced at his watch. "Like you, I was early. Another five minutes to zero." He smiled and stepped into the passage. "While we're waiting we might as well take a look round the place. Boniface may have left something in error that would give us a lead."

## Gloomy room

Inside the musty smell was everywhere. They followed Mr. Thompson along the passage and into a small, bare room. The window looked out over the creek, but was partly covered by a dirty sack, which added to the gloom of the room.

Nothing covered the stone floor but a layer of dust. There was a broken box near the fireplace, and a crate stood in the centre of the room as though it might have served as a table. In one corner a large box lay tipped on its side, and beneath a row of empty shelves on one wall was a battered chair with the stuffing spilling through the torn surface of the seat as if rats had made a nest in it. At the other end of the room was another door.

Mr. Thompson knelt down and examined the ash in the grate.

"Looks as if the captain burnt all his papers before he left," he declared, poking the large pile of light ash with a splinter from the box.

## At pistol-point

His companions, bending low, crowded round the grate.

"D'you think he's only just left then?" Jerry asked.

"I'd say so or this paper would be damp," Thompson returned. "Probably last night or this morning. He was here two days ago. I saw him."

"You're still not too late to meet me, Mr. Thompson!"

The strange, hard voice behind them jerked all four of them up-

right and like puppets on a string they spun round to stare at two figures in the far doorway.

The speaker, a thick-set man with dark, close-cropped hair, advanced a pace into the room. In his left hand he carried a pistol while his right hand was thrust deep into the pocket of his long reefer jacket. A small scar at the corner of his mouth gave his lips a permanent curl so that each time he spoke he gave the impression of a sneer.

## Captain Boniface

"Get your hands up—all of you!" he ordered in menacing tones.

"Are — are — you — Captain Boniface?" Jane stammered the question, unable to recognise her tremulous voice, nor to control her curiosity.

"Button your lip, girl! I do the talking—and get those hands up!" was the grim retort. He nudged his companion and the man moved closer to Thompson.

He was shorter, slimmer, than the man they now assumed was Boniface. He also carried a gun. He wore a fisherman's type cap with the peak pulled well down over his eyes. His cheeks were hollow, the skin stretched tight over the high cheek bones, and his lips hardly moved when he spoke.

"O.K., Thompson," he grated. "We want you outside. This place isn't big enough for all of us." He pointed the gun at the coastguard's chest, while the other man covered the Conways and Fergie.

## Playing for time

"Don't let's be hasty and regret it afterwards," Mr. Thompson had recovered his composure, and he spoke slowly and calmly as if playing for time. He ignored the gunman threatening him and looked at Boniface. "I don't know why we've given you the jitters, Captain, but we came here to help you—"

"Don't give me that line," Boniface cut in icily. "I know why you're here. I'm no fool. And I don't like government officials, anyway. Now get going..."

"Inspector Langton and his men are on the way from—" Thompson began, but was cut short by a push from the thin gunman, and he staggered towards the door to the passage with his hands above his head.

"That's better," sneered Boniface. "We haven't time to discuss the police force."

Fergie and the Conways, pale-faced and helpless, watched Thompson escorted into the passage and heard him move along it towards the outer door. Each was sick with fear and each tried to hide it in their defiant stare



Like puppets on a string, they spun round to stare at two figures in the far doorway.

as they dragged their eyes back to the man with the gun.

"The coastguard wasn't bluffing," Jerry blurted out. "The police are coming."

"Then it's a pity you won't be around to welcome them," their captor grinned. "Now I want no more lip from any of you or—!" He broke off as there came the loud report of a gun from somewhere outside. "Or you know what to expect," he added with grim meaning.

He stepped into the passage and, blocking the way to the outside door, waved them forward. Scared and bewildered by the frightful turn of events and too dazed to believe that the gun outside had been fired mercilessly at

Thompson, they stepped mechanically into the passage. They were marched along it to a narrow door on the right, which their captor kicked open.

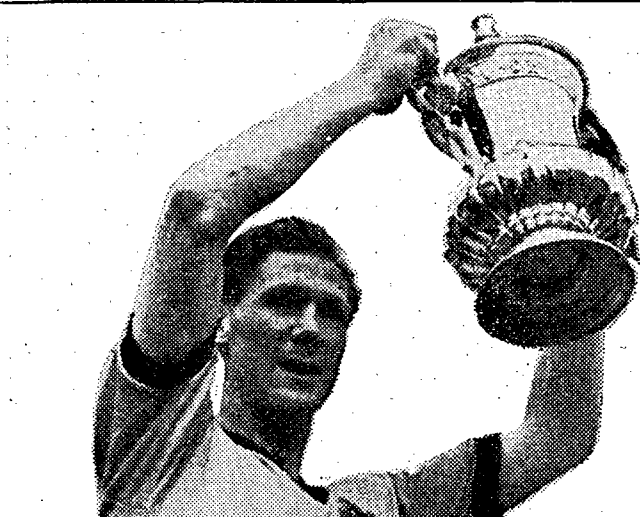
"In you go," he ordered.

A fist thumped Jerry between the shoulder-blades and as he was at the rear, he crashed into Jane and Fergie and together all three pitched forward down a flight of steps and sprawled on the damp, uneven floor of a cellar.

"One squeak from any of you will be your last!"

The sneering threat sang in their ears as the door was slammed and bolted, and they were left on their own in the musty darkness.

*To be continued*



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**WORLD OF STAMPS****New issues from Canada and Nigeria**

THROUGHOUT the Winter bitter winds blow down from the North Pole over Hudson Bay and the northern territories of Canada, icy lands once inhabited only by Eskimos and a few trappers. In

begin to open up the northern territories. Roads are being built, towns are springing up, and the rich resources of oil and minerals are being surveyed and developed. Nor are the Eskimos forgotten; schools and hospitals are being built for them, and they are encouraged to share in the exciting work of development.

Canada's first stamp of 1961 pays tribute to the progress being made in her Far North. Its design shows a huge earth-moving machine with a surveyor at work beside it, and lines of Latitude and Longitude to illustrate the vast expanse of this part of Canada. Due to appear on 8th February, the stamp will be attractively coloured in red and green.

Other new Canadian stamps planned for 1961 include one in honour of a Canadian poet, Emily Pauline Johnson. Born a hundred years ago, she was a member of the Mohawk tribe of Red Indians.

Another stamp is also to be added to the series honouring famous Canadian Prime Ministers. This will portray Arthur Meighen, who twice held office during the 1920s.

IN another important part of the Commonwealth, the Federation of Nigeria, a complete new series of stamps is being issued this month. The low values show some of Nigeria's products and industries. On the ½d. stamp, for instance, is a groundnut plant, which provides us with what we usually call "monkey-nuts." Nigeria produces over half-a-million tons of monkey-nuts annually, and they are a rich source of oil. Pottery-making, coal-mining, and weaving are featured on other stamps.

On the high values are shown some of Nigeria's fine new buildings, including the Central Bank and the Railway Station in Lagos, the capital. The 5s. stamp has a view of the Nigerian Museum with one of the bronze sculptures made five centuries ago by native craftsmen.



The example shown is a bust of a Portuguese soldier, for explorers from Portugal were probably the first Europeans to be seen on the west coast of Africa.

NEARLY 300 years ago Britain and Holland exchanged some of their colonies. Britain received New Amsterdam, in North America, and changed its name to New York, now the greatest city of the United States.

In exchange the Dutch received part of Guiana, in South America. This part is now known as Surinam, a member of the Dutch Commonwealth. A new series of Surinamese stamps for ordinary use shows some of the country's products, including bananas, coffee, and rice. On the six-cents stamp is a cluster of coconuts.

C. W. HILL



of the country's products, including bananas, coffee, and rice. On the six-cents stamp is a cluster of coconuts.



recent years the Canadian Government, with the aid of modern inventions such as the aeroplane, the tractor, and the radio, has

**She deserved the V.C.**

The Victoria Cross in this picture is an imitation one, and probably a unique relic of its kind. It has been lent to the National Army Museum at Sandhurst together with the miniature portrait of the brave lady who won it.

The cross is a gold replica of the bronze V.C., and is inscribed: "Presented to Mrs. Webber Harris by the Officers of the 104th Bengal Fusiliers for her indomitable pluck during the cholera epidemic of 1869."

Mrs. Harris, the commanding officer's wife, constantly risked death from cholera to tend sick and dying soldiers. She could not be given the real V.C., for women were not then eligible for it, but she lived another 48 years to wear her treasured replica.

**SUNDAY PICTORIAL****NATIONAL EXHIBITION OF CHILDREN'S ART 1961****Children's pictures and craft work**

Entries are invited for the fourteenth annual exhibition to be held in London in September.

All children aged between 5 and 16 may enter. Write now for leaflet to:

NATIONAL EXHIBITION OF CHILDREN'S ART (A),  
 Sunday Pictorial,  
 Fetter Lane, London, E.C.4.

Closing date for entries:

1st MARCH, 1961

Advisory Committee:

Sir Herbert Read, Mr. Gordon Archibald, Mr. E. M. O'R. Dickey, Mr. Eduardo Paolozzi, Mr. Victor Pasmore, Mr. R. R. Tomlinson, and Mr. Gabriel White.

**A jersey for Dad?**  
**A jacket for Mum?**  
**A teenage sweater?**

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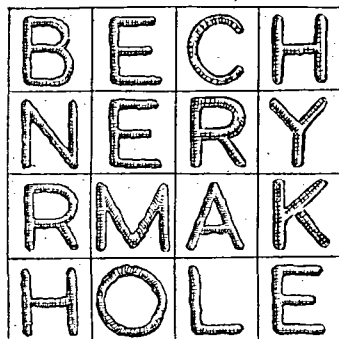
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# PUZZLE PARADE

## TREES IN A SQUARE



By moving from square to square in any direction, the names of six trees can be formed. How quickly can you find the names?

## Outlook—black

HISTORY was not Tommy's strong point. Asked who the Black Prince was he replied, "The son of Old King Cole."

## Adding TIN

The answer to each clue contains the word TIN. Now see how quickly you can form the six words required.

- CLOSELY woven silk
- Body of retainers
- Bird of the swallow kind
- Performing
- Stinging sensation.

## Riddle-me-ree

My first is in wind but not in gale;  
My second's in clouds but not in hail;  
My third is in whine but not in blow;  
My fourth is in ice but not in snow;  
My fifth is in cold but not in damp;  
My sixth is in lantern but not in lamp;  
My whole is a thing that is crystalline clear,  
And seen in the chilliest months of the year.

## WORD CHANGING

CAN you change the word WORK into REST in four stages, altering only one letter at a time?

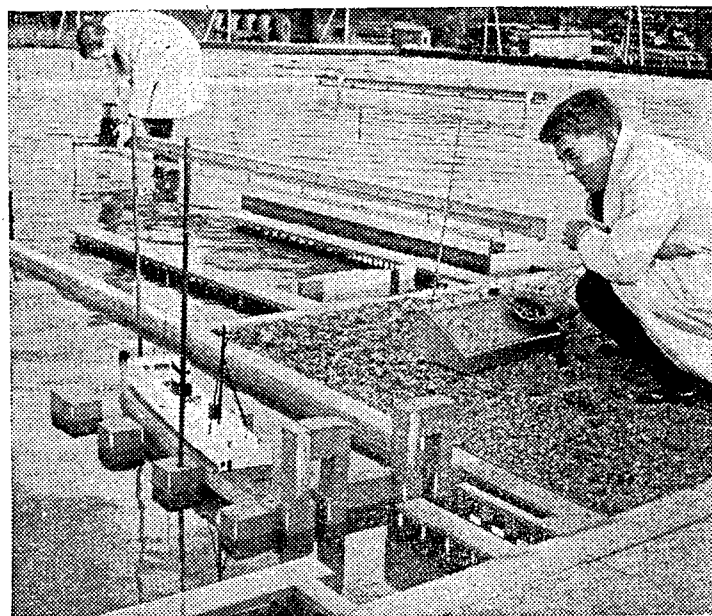
## THREE'S COMPANY

In this word puzzle (a) is a clue to a three-letter word which, with another letter added, gives the answer to (b). A further letter is added to make a five-letter answer to clue (c). Example: fee, feet, fleet.

Answers are given in column 5

1. (a) Hole in hedge.  
(b) Struggle for breath.  
(c) Hold firmly.
2. (a) Vase.  
(b) Change direction.  
(c) Town in Italy.
3. (a) Stinging insect.  
(b) Root vegetable.  
(c) Holiday cap.
4. (a) Greasy liquid.  
(b) Earth.  
(c) Damage severely.
5. (a) Dull brown colour.  
(b) Hillock of sand.  
(c) Stupid pupil.
6. (a) Span of years.  
(b) Wise old man.  
(c) Common practice.

## WHAT ARE THEY DOING?



THIS picture, rather mysterious at first sight, was taken at the Wimpey Central Laboratory at Hayes, Middlesex. It shows a scale model of Dover Harbour built in connection with the construction of new berths for cross-Channel steamers. The laboratory assistant on the right is working the radio control, and the other is in charge of the wave-recording instrument. The use of such models provides civil engineers with useful information, saving time and money, before actual building starts.

## ENOUGH

THE letter E has been described as the greatest letter in the alphabet because it is at the beginning of Eternity, the end of Time and Space, the beginning of every end, and the end of every race.

## Poor Jack

OLD JACK FROST must be terribly cold!

And old—I suppose he is ever so old.

His breath is of ice, and his beard of the snows.

And everything freezes wherever he goes.

Poor Jack! I wonder if, just for a treat,

He'd enjoy for an hour our nice central heat.

It must be so cheerless out there all the night,

And so dismal and dreary with never a light.

I'm sure he must sometimes feel lonely and lost;

I feel so sorry for poor Jack Frost!

## Hidden animals

The name of an animal is hidden in each of the following sentences. Can you find all six?

Tom has seen his old school-friend.

There came the gentle murmur of a rippling stream.

Harry needed the cash, or seemed to be in need.

Not long ago a tree was blown down here.

That film is so good; do go to see it.

Will amble along; I do wish he would hurry.

## HOWLER

AN angle is a triangle with only two sides.

## ANSWERS TO PUZZLES

Trees in a square. Hornbeam; oak; larch; elm; beech; may. Adding TIN. Sa-tin; re-tin-ue; mar-tin; ac-tin-g; tin-gle. Riddle-me-rec. Icicle. Word changing. Work, wort, wert, west, rest. Name the cities. Prague; Pretoria; Tel Aviv. Hidden animals. Ass; lemur; horse; goat; dog; lamb.

## THREE'S COMPANY

1 gap, gasp, grasp. 2 urn, turn, Turin. 3 bee, beet, beret. 4 oil, soil, spoil. 5 dun, dune, dunce. 6 age, sage, usage.

## CN Competition No. 5

## WIN A SPORTS PRIZE!

FOOTBALL, Netball, or Hockey—which is your favourite game? Whichever it is, here's your opportunity to win a prize which will enable you to enjoy it even more! See if you can win one of these five first prizes, an individual choice of a Football or Netball, a pair of Soccer Boots, or a Hockey Stick.

You may enter if you are under 17 and live in Great Britain, Northern Ireland, or the Channel Islands. This is what you must do:

In the circles below are objects associated with the eight different occupations named on the labels—but of course the labels are all with the wrong articles. Can you say who really uses which? Write your answers neatly on a plain postcard, beginning No. 1 —Barrister, with the remaining seven underneath and putting one of the occupations against each object number.

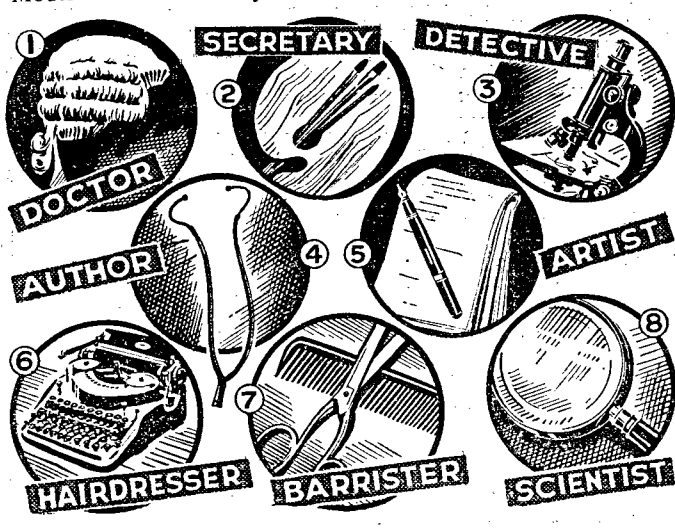
Add your full name, age, and address at the bottom of the card, then state which prize you would like if you win and, finally, ask a parent or guardian to sign it as your own unaided work. Entries should be addressed to:

CN Competition No. 5,

3 Pilgrim Street, London, E.C.4 (Comp.)

to arrive by Tuesday, 31st January, the closing date.

Five sports prizes as chosen will be awarded for the nearest correct solutions, with writing according to age taken into account. There will also be ten runners-up prizes of Needlework Sets for girls and Model Plane Kits for boys. The Editor's decision is final.

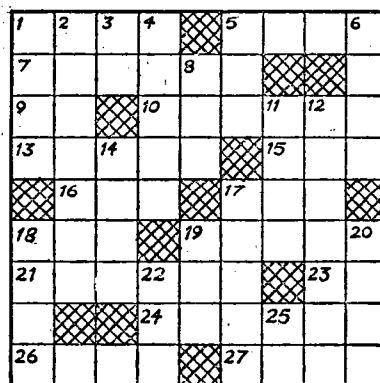


## Ambition of an apple

A DISCONTENTED apple said: "This bough no more I'll dwell on. I'll drop into the ditch instead, And be a water-melon."

## Crossword Puzzle

READING ACROSS. 1 Region. 5 Finishes. 7 One who makes a loan. 9 Postscript. 10 Come. 13 Fabric. 15 Large vessel for holding liquid. 16 Word placed before married woman's maiden name. 17 For cooking. 18 Estimated Time of Arrival. 19 Looks after. 21 Obliquely. 23 Automobile Association. 24 Front seats in a theatre. 26 Set lessons in school. 27 Whip. READING DOWN. 1 Mountains. 2 Feels indignation. 3 Printer's measure. 4 Proverb. 5 Make a mistake. 6 Used in cooking. 8 Before. 11 Former ruler of Russia. 12 Barbarians. 14 Not fictitious. 17 Part of a flower. 18 Where the sun rises. 19 Explosive. 20 Silken band. 22 Request. 25 Los Angeles.



Answer next week

## Billy joins the chorus

"BILLY, if I hear that song just once more I think I'll burst a blood vessel," said Daddy.

"But it's a marvellous song," said Billy.

"Maybe," said Daddy. "But even the best of songs sounds awful to me after I've heard it ten times a day for the past three weeks."

That was a slight exaggeration, but the record that Billy had received for Christmas by his favourite "pop" singer certainly had been played a great deal.

"In any case," added Daddy, as Billy pulled a long face and switched off the record player, "it's time we were leaving for the pantomime."

Billy's face brightened. He was specially looking forward to this panto.

It was not long before they were in the theatre listening to the orchestra playing the overture.

Then the curtain went up and there, greeted by great cheers from the audience, was the pop singer of the record. Daddy didn't recognise him at first. Then he started to sing—the song Daddy had been hearing "ten times a day for the past three weeks."

He shuddered and clamped his hands over his ears. "How could you do this to me," he groaned.

But Billy didn't hear him. He was joining in the chorus at the top of his voice.



# ON THE ROAD TO MONTE CARLO

## BBC team will compete in a taxi

MONTE CARLO, here we come! That will be the thought of the drivers and navigators of 356 cars who will be setting out on Saturday in the annual Monte Carlo Rally.

Of this total 110 are British, and 65 of them will be starting from Glasgow, one of the eight starting points. Sixteen will leave from Paris, 15 from Stockholm, six from Monte Carlo itself, four

from Warsaw, and three from Lisbon. One lone British driver will set out from Frankfurt. None of the British entrants favoured Athens, the remaining starting point.

All the competitors will make their way to Charbonnières, near Lyons, and then follow the common route to Monte Carlo. Drivers starting from Warsaw will have to cover the longest distance

—2,461 miles—and those from Monte Carlo itself the shortest—2,267 miles.

The British challenge looks particularly strong this year. Among the women competitors are Mrs. Anne Hall, who won the Ladies Cup in the recent R.A.C. Rally; Pat Moss, the 1960 European Women's Champion; and Mary Handley Page. Sydney Allard, who won the event in 1952, is again taking part.

One of the most interesting entries is that of Peter Dimmock and his B.B.C. Sportsview crew, who will be driving a London taxi. It has been appropriately equipped, including the provision of a fourth door to keep out some of the cold.

## Two rugby internationals on Saturday

Two rugby international matches will take place on Saturday—Wales v. England, at Cardiff, and Scotland v. The Springboks, at Murrayfield.

The Scots hold a unique record—they are the only one of the Home Countries ever to beat South Africa in Britain. That was against the first Springboks in 1906. Since then, however, South African visitors to Scotland have remained unbeaten; in fact, on their last tour the Springboks romped to a 44 to nil victory.

One of Scotland's new caps this season is Captain Michael Campbell-Lamerton, 17-stone second row forward. Four years ago, as an officer in the Duke of Welling-

ton's Regiment, he broke a leg in a parachute jump. It was feared that his first-class rugby career was ended, but after two years he started playing again for his regiment before being posted to Kenya. He returned to this country last October, began playing again with Blackheath, and quickly earned international selection.

The match at Cardiff between Wales and England is bound to attract a capacity crowd, for these matches mean plenty of thrills. Since 1880 the countries have met 65 times, and England hold the lead with 31 victories to 26. At Cardiff, however, the Welshmen lead by 7 games to 6.

### Expensive ride

When they leave Glasgow on Saturday morning, the team will pull down the taxi's meter flag, and will not raise it until they reach Monte Carlo. What with the extra charge for after-midnight driving and the additional cost for luggage and passengers, it looks like being a most expensive taxi ride!

The first cars should reach Monte Carlo on the morning of 25th January. But this will not be the end of the Rally, for after a rest the crews must set off on the road classification test—some 600 miles of precision driving. In this test cars must arrive at certain points within a tenth-of-a-second of the stipulated time if they are not to lose marks. And all this along roads which are almost certain to be covered in snow.

### Football Association getting ready for its centenary

THE Football Association celebrates its centenary in 1963, and already arrangements are well in hand to make the year memorable in the history of our national sport.

Celebrations will extend from Easter until late October and a number of special matches have been arranged including England v. Europe at Wembley, and between England and the 1962 World Cup Winners. There is to be a Youth tournament and a series of amateur international matches in which it is hoped seven countries will compete.

## MOTOR-CYCLIST OF THE YEAR



Dave Bickers, European moto-cross champion, with a gleaming collection of silver trophies that he has won in the last five years in Britain, France, Germany, and Sweden. Dave, who lives at Coddendam, Suffolk, was recently voted motor-cyclist of the year in a national poll.

## Great demand for Anita and Natalie

FOR Anita Lonsbrough and Natalie Steward the next two months promise to be among the busiest of their lives. They are now starting a tour of New Zealand, taking part in several championships and giving exhibitions.

The entire cost of the trip is being provided by the New Zealand swimming federation, for it seems that every swimming enthusiast in the country wants to see the two girls in action. Anita is the world's outstanding breast-stroke swimmer, and Natalie is the world 110-yards backstroke record-holder and Europe's No. 1 freestyler.

### TITLE FOR MIKE SANGSTER

"THE best prospect since Fred Perry." That is the opinion of Australia's lawn tennis critics.

"I tip him to finish next season as either No. 1 or No. 2 in the British ranking list," says Jaroslav Drobny.

The subject of these enthusiastic remarks is 19-year-old Mike Sangster of Torquay, who recently became the first Englishman to win a major Australian title for 25 years. He won the Western

America, too, is eager to see the two girls in action, for they have been invited to take part in the U.S. national championships on their way home from New Zealand.

If they are able to accept the invitation, they will be the first British girls ever to take part in these championships.

Anita and Natalie are likely to have a return meeting with some of the American stars later in the year. A U.S. team of up to 20 girls is coming to Europe in the Summer to take part in a Europe v. America match in Monte Carlo. It is likely that a match against Britain will also be arranged.

## BASKETBALL LESSON



Mr. Jim MacGregor, basketball coach from the U.S. who has been on a six-week tour of Britain, is here seen during a training session at the Watford Boys' Grammar School, Hertfordshire.

## NEW EVENT FOR YOUNG CROSS-COUNTRY RUNNERS

MORE than 300 of Britain's long-distance runners from 37 counties will compete in the Inter-County Cross-country Championships on Saturday at Bingley, near Bradford. This year's race consists of four 1½-mile laps of an undulating course over farm land.

The present holders of The Daily Telegraph Trophy are Lancashire, who last season provided the winner, 23-year-old Gerald North,

and the third man home, Brian Craig. Basil Heatley, of Warwickshire, was second.

Cross-country running is becoming more and more popular, particularly among junior athletes, and this year a special two-mile team race for boys will be run on Saturday as a curtain-raiser to the senior event. Nearly 200 boys from clubs and schools all over the country have entered teams.

